

FIG. 1

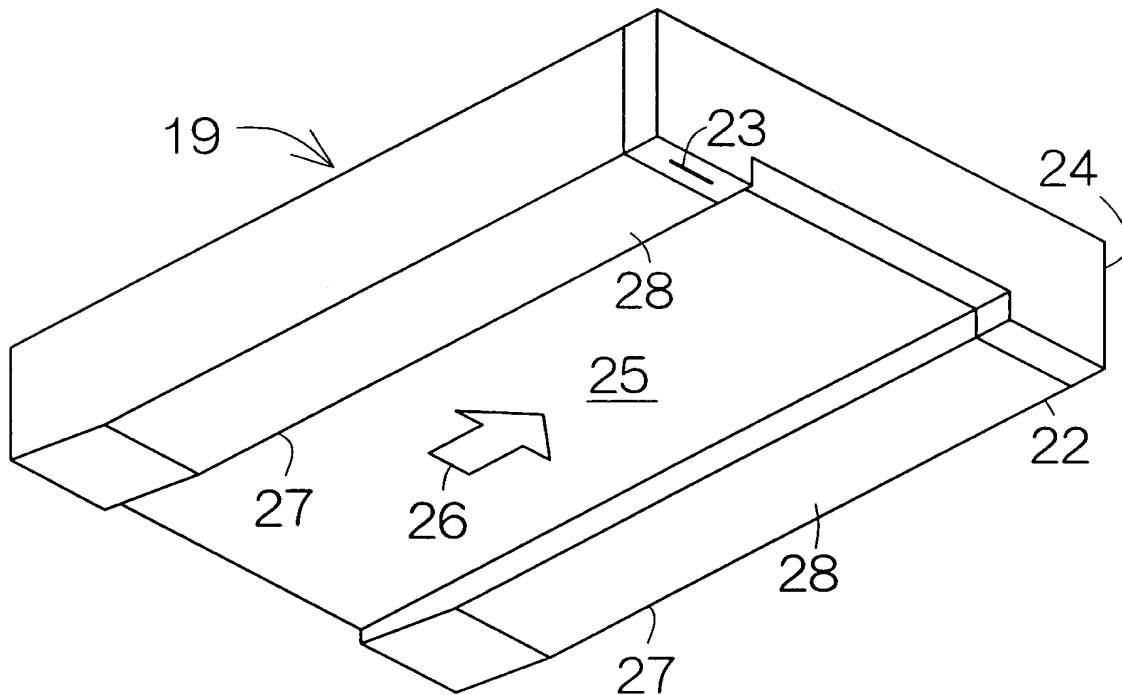


FIG. 2

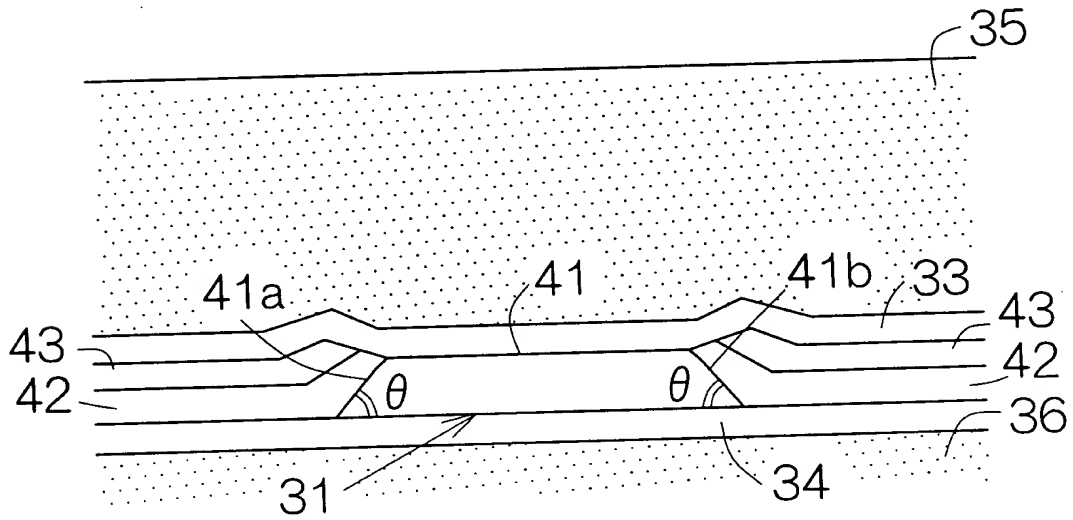
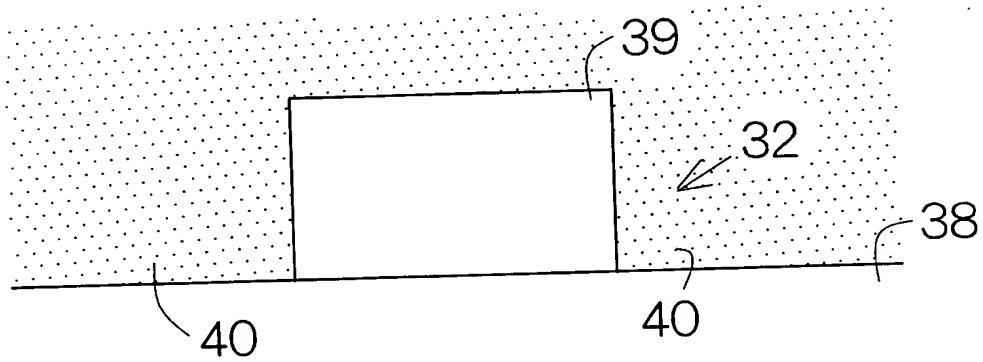


FIG.3

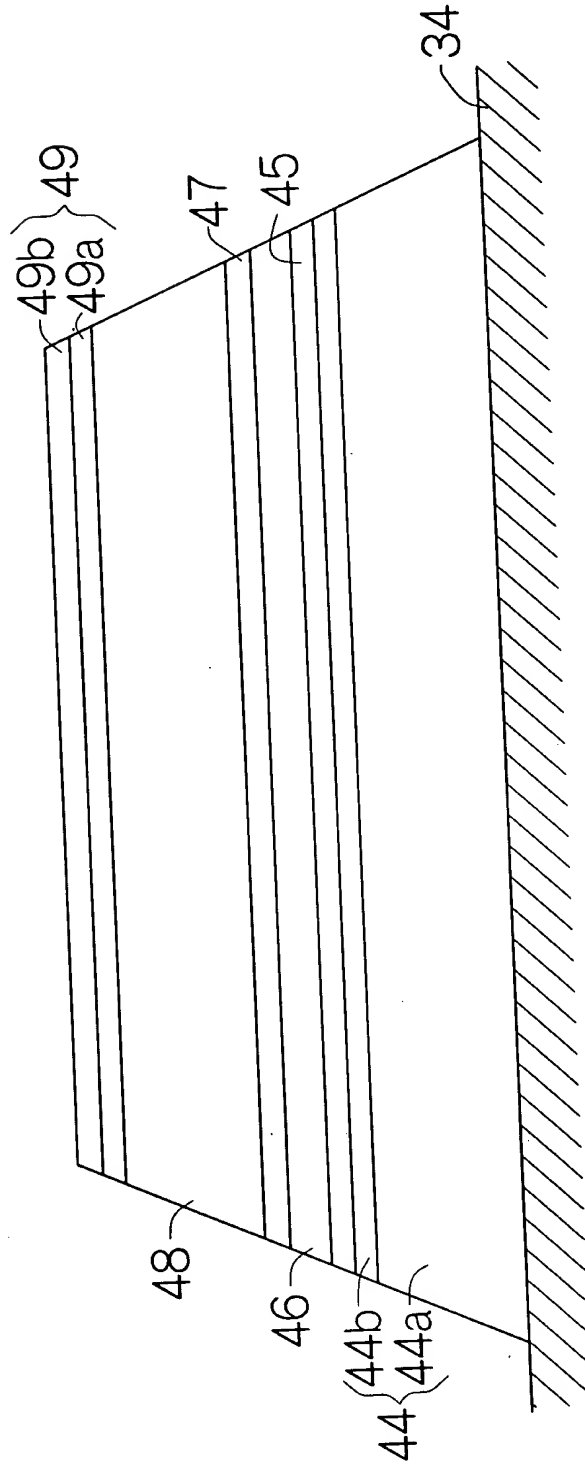


FIG. 4

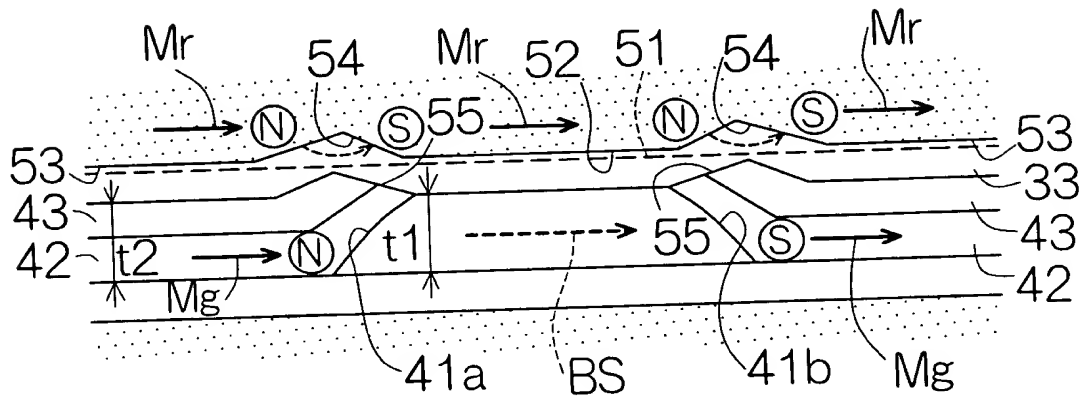


FIG.5

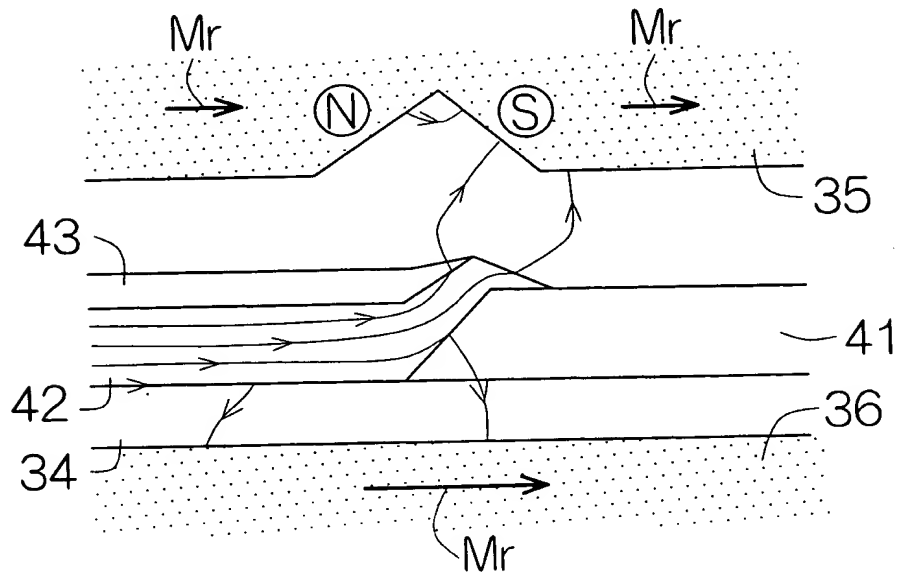


FIG. 6A

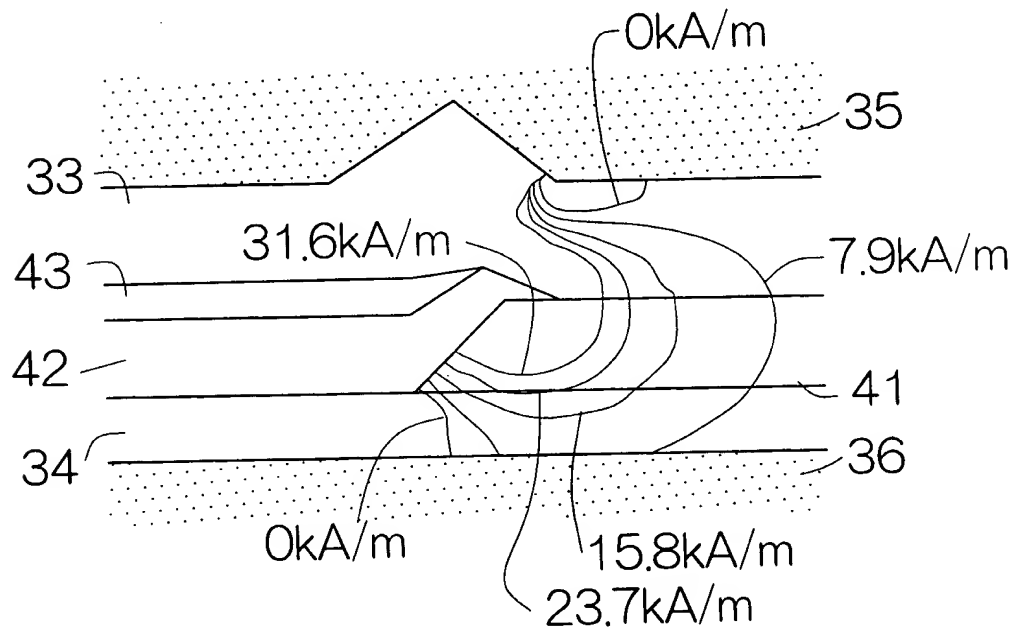
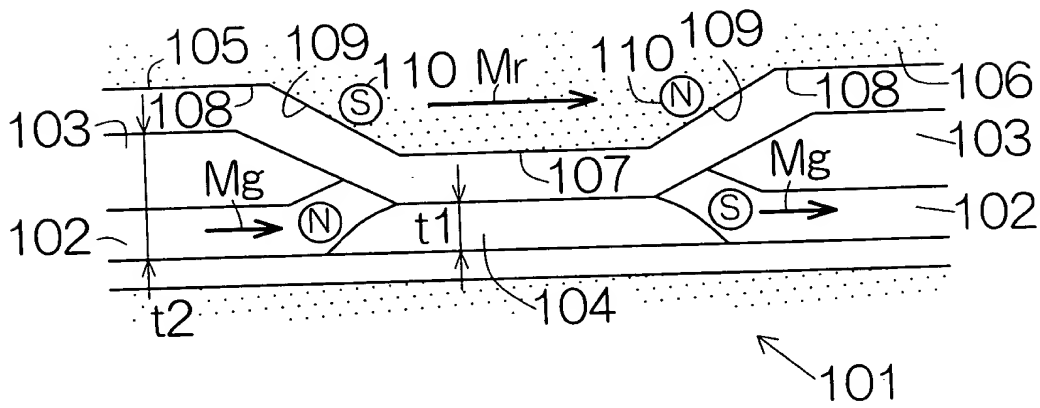
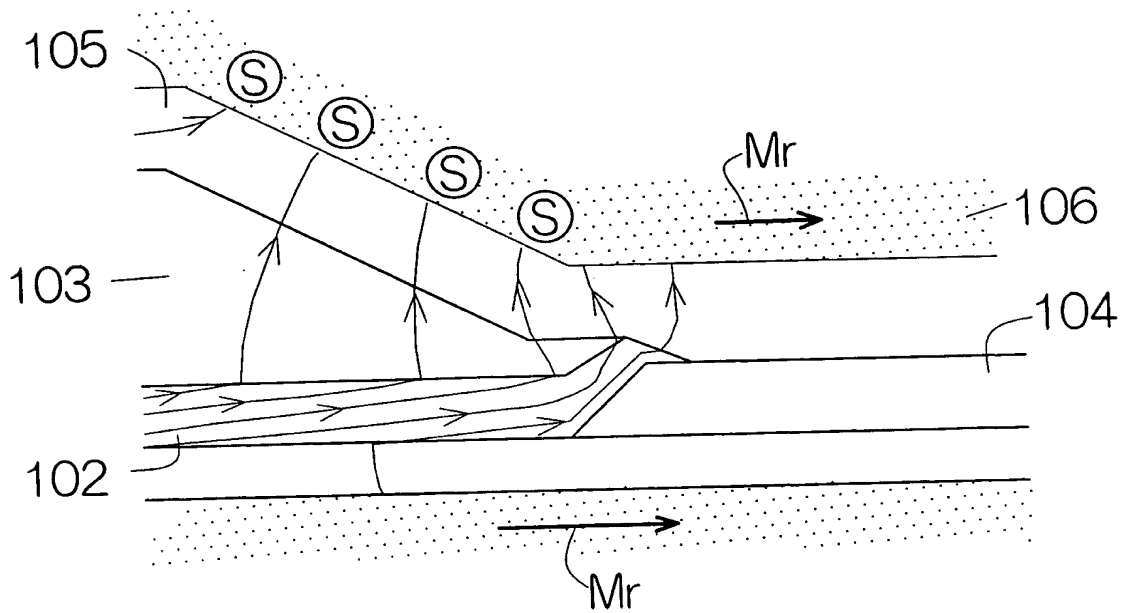


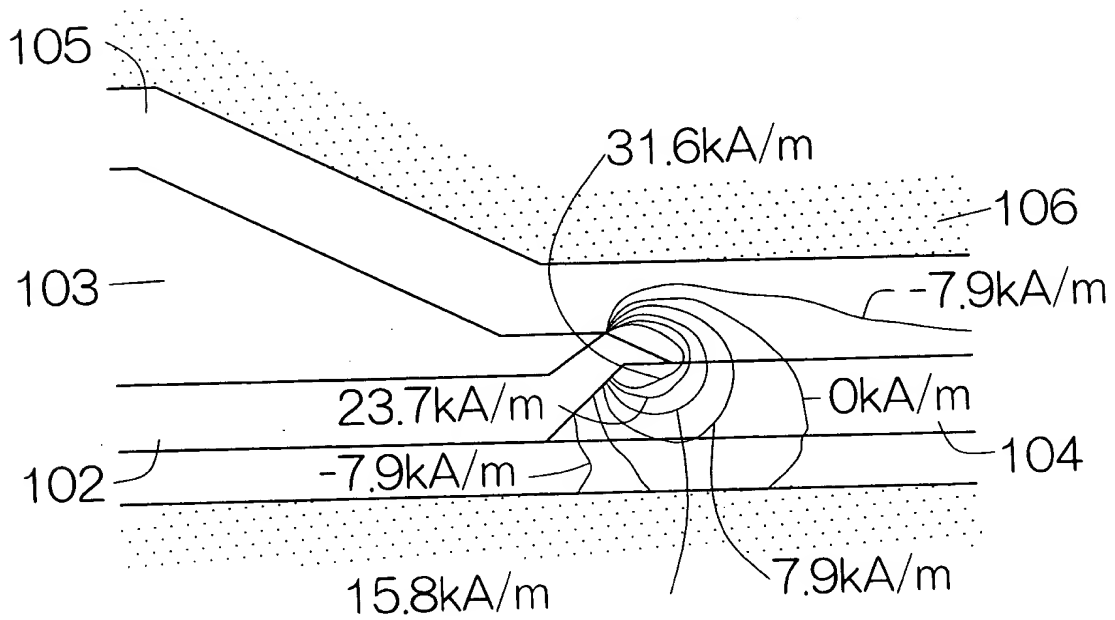
FIG. 6B



Prior Art
 FIG.7



Prior Art
 FIG. 8A



Prior Art
 FIG. 8B

[illegible]

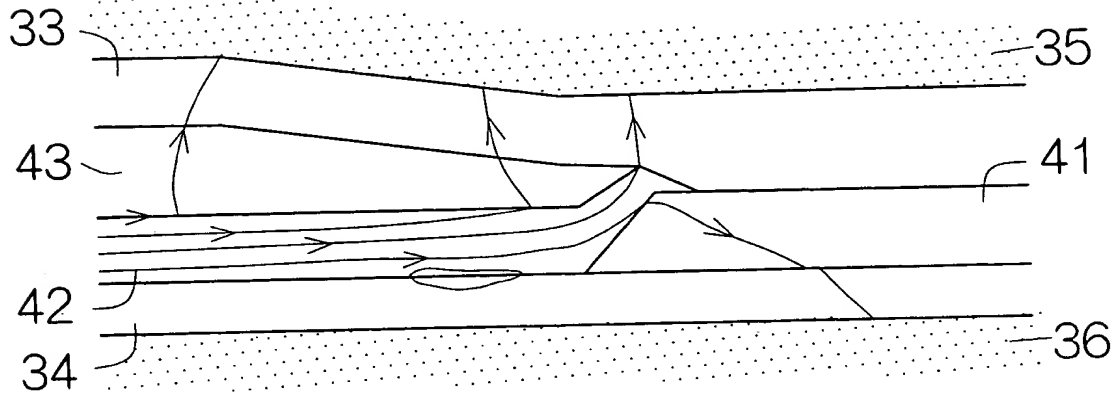


FIG. 10A

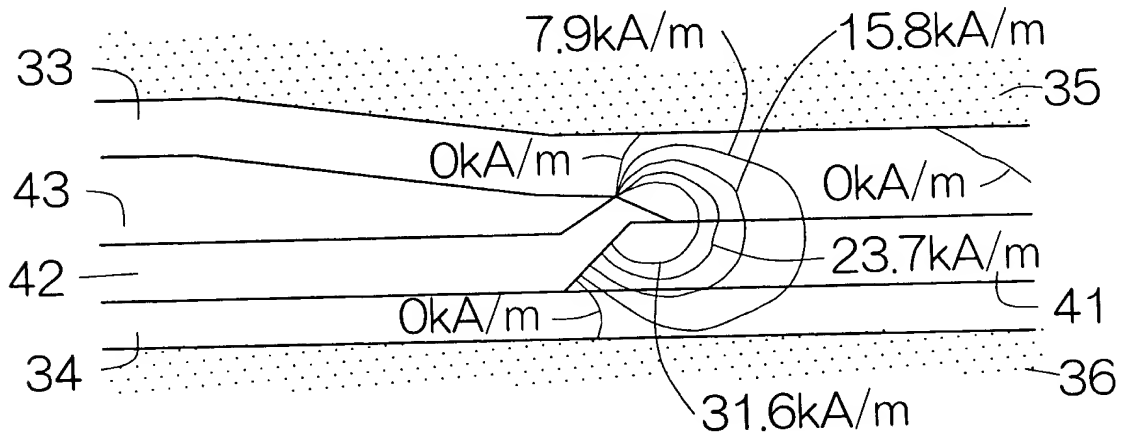


FIG. 10B

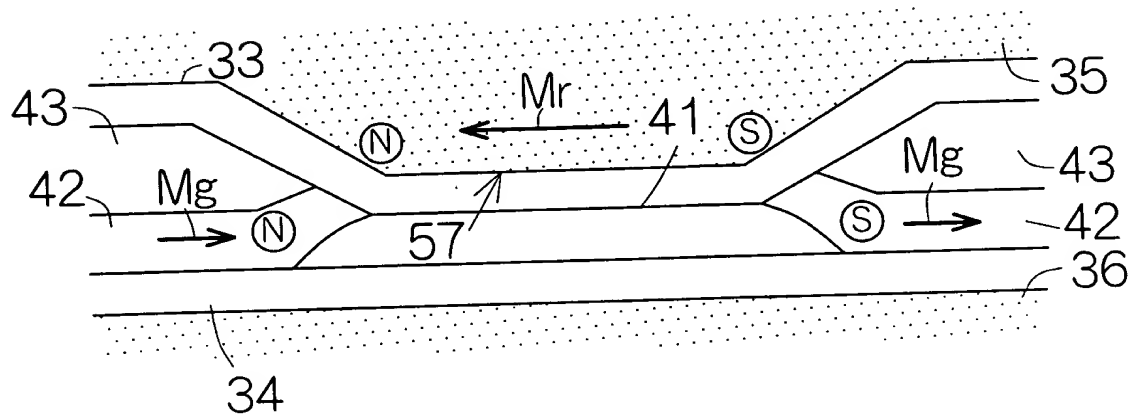


FIG.11

FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional view of the magnetoresistive transducer of FIG. 10, showing the central region 57 of the central layer 41, and the layers 33, 35, 36, 42, and 43. The layers 33 and 35 are shown as sloping downwards towards the center of the structure. The layers 42 and 43 are shown as sloping upwards towards the center of the structure. The central region 57 is shown as a central region of the central layer 41. The layers 33, 35, 36, 42, and 43 are shown as layers of the transducer. The central region 57 is shown as a central region of the central layer 41. The layers 33, 35, 36, 42, and 43 are shown as layers of the transducer.

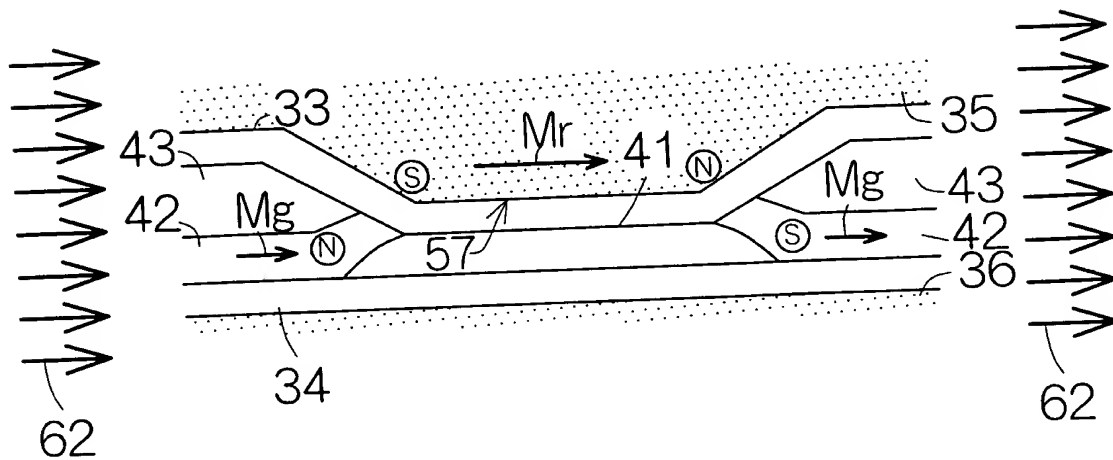


FIG. 12

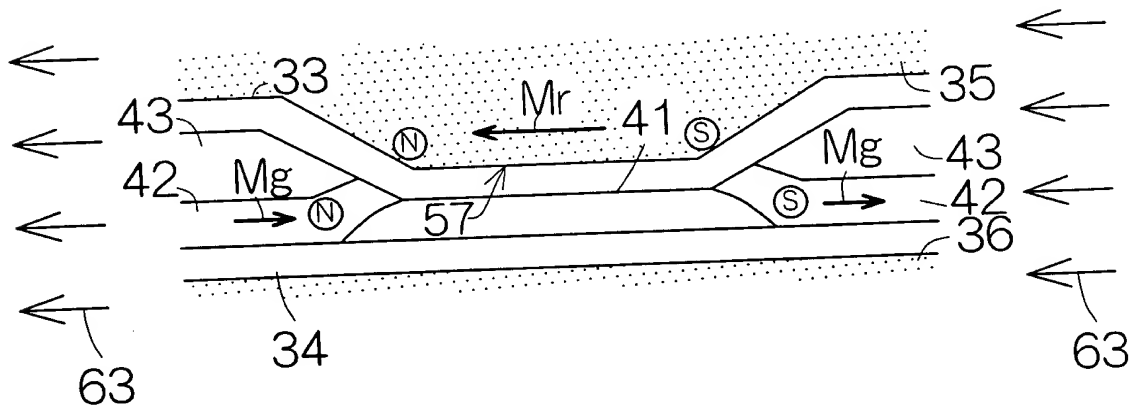


FIG. 13

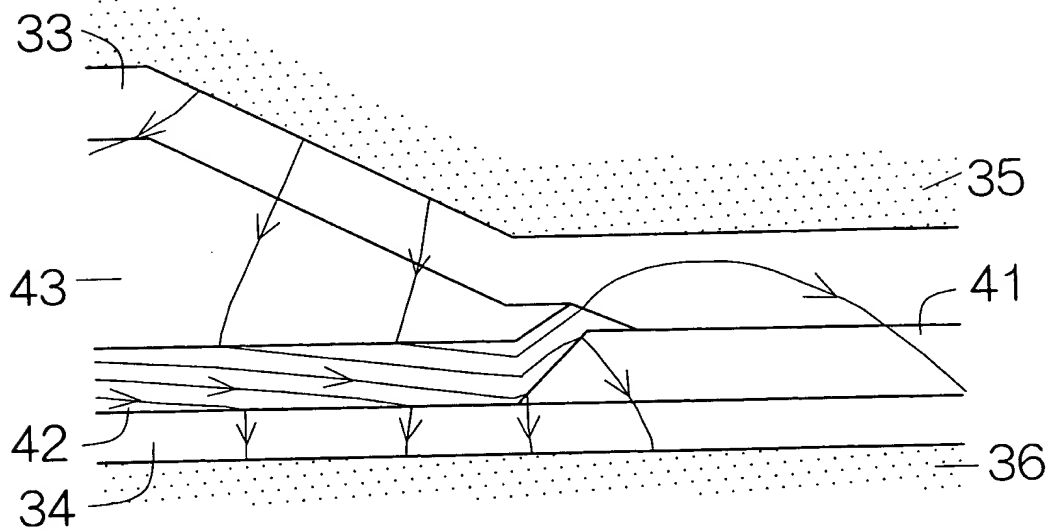


FIG. 14A

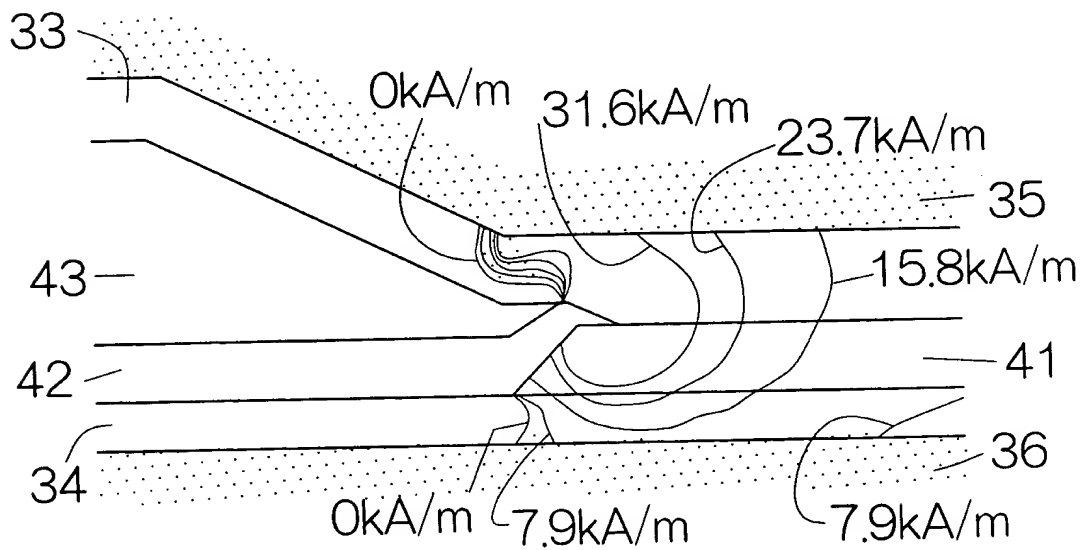


FIG. 14B